

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings include formal replacement drawings for FIGS. 1-17. These sheets, which include FIGS. 1-17, replace the original sheets including FIGS. 1-17. FIGS. 1-17 include minor corrections due to typographical errors.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets (13)

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted under 37 CFR § 1.312 in response to the Notice of Allowance dated November 29, 2006. Applicants have provided corrected drawings as required by the Notice of Allowance. Applicants have also provided amendments to the specification to correct typographical errors and to correspond to the corrected drawings.

Applicants' undersigned attorney appreciates the Examiner's consideration of the foregoing amendments. As will be noted, the foregoing amendments do not change the scope of the claims and should therefore be suitable for entry even after the Notice of Allowance.

As such, Applicants respectfully request consideration and entry of the foregoing amendments prior to issuance of the present application. If any questions should arise regarding this Amendment, the Office is encouraged to telephone Applicants' undersigned attorney to resolve those questions in the most expeditious manner.

Respectfully submitted,



Chad L. Thorson
Registration No. 55,675

Customer No. 00826
ALSTON & BIRD LLP
Bank of America Plaza
101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000
Charlotte, NC 28280-4000
Tel Charlotte Office (704) 444-1000
Fax Charlotte Office (704) 444-1111

ELECTRONICALLY FILED USING THE EFS-WEB ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE ON JANUARY 5, 2007.
LEGAL02/30208124v1